



S/N 10/691,021

IFW  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	VAN WIE	Examiner:	J. FOX
Serial No.:	10/691,021	Group Art Unit:	3753
Filed:	OCTOBER 21, 2003	Docket No.:	11919.11USD2
Title:	VALVE AND TANK ENCLOSURE ASSEMBLY		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 9, 2004.

By: *Carla J. Mauch*  
Name: Carla J. Mauch

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 12, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

09/27/2004 LFULTON 00000006 132725 10691021  
01 FC:2202 9.00 DA

09/14/2004 JBALINAW 00000052 10691021  
01 FC:2202 27.00 OP

2202 \$9 ①



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: VAN WIE  
Serial No.: 10/691,021  
Filed: OCTOBER 21, 2003  
Confirmation No.: 4995  
Examiner: J. FOX  
Group Art Unit: 3753  
Docket: 11919.11USD2  
Due Date: OCTOBER 12, 2004  
Title: VALVE AND TANK ENCLOSURE ASSEMBLY

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 9, 2004.

By: *Carla J. Mauch*  
Name: Carla J. Mauch

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**23552**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing  
☒ Amendment and Response  
The fee has been calculated as shown below in the "Claims as Amended" table  
☒ Check(s) in the amount of \$27.00 for Additional Claims Fee  
☒ Return postcard

## CLAIMS AS AMENDED

Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid For		Present Extra		Rate		Fee
Total Claims							
24	- 21	=	3	x	9.00	=	\$27.00
Independent Claims							
4	- 4	=	0	x	43.00	=	\$0.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM FEE							\$0.00
TOTAL FILING FEE							27.00

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
612.332.5300

By: *Karen A. Fitzsimmons*  
Name: Karen A. Fitzsimmons  
Reg. No.: 50,470  
KFitzsimmons/cjm

(PTO TRANSMITTAL - GENERAL)

to the independent claims, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 39-42 are patentable.

### SUMMARY

It is respectfully submitted that each of the presently pending claims (claims 16-18 and 21-42) is in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the below-listed telephone number if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

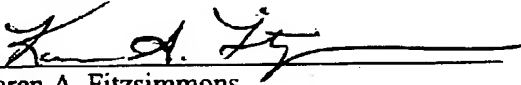
Although certain arguments regarding patentability are set forth herein, there may be other arguments and reasons why the claimed invention is patentably distinct. Applicants reserve the right to raise these arguments in the future.

Respectfully submitted,



MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Date: Sept. 9, 2004

  
Karen A. Fitzsimmons  
Reg. No. 50,470  
KAF:cjm